[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Every endeavour is being made by the Chief Engineer to spend the allotments fully.

Karkatasseri—Neduvakkad Road.

282. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to arrange for the village road from Karkatasseri landing place near Muvattupuzha to Neduvakkad being converted at once into a cart road?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The conversion of this village road into a cart road is being investigated by the Chief Engineer.

Expenditure on Irrigation.

283. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the total expenditure on irrigation during the last seven years, and the portion spent for the Kottayam Division alone?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The total expenditure incurred on irrigation during the last seven years was Rs. 16,03,264, of which a sum of Rs. 95,299 was spent in the Kottayam Division.

Conversion into Paddy Lands of a certain Tract in Muvattupuzha Taluk.

284. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that there is an area of about two thousand acres of very fertile land along the northern banks of the Periyar, included in the reserve and lying along its borders and measuring about twelve miles in length, from the junction of the Deviyar (a tributary of the Periyar) with the Periyar in Muvattupuzha taluk up to Tattakad road, and that there is adequate facility for converting this area into cultivable lands by the diversion of the Deviyar water through the necessary irrigation channels without much cost?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to depute experts to make preliminary investigations for carrying out this project?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) They are aware of the locality referred to.

(*b*) The Disafforestation Committee for the Muvattupuzha taluk will have something to say in regard to this area and Government will await the report of that committee.

Konni Pepper Farm.

285. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) What is the distance from the Main Central Road to the Konni Pepper Farm? Is the road to the farm cartable?

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